



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

**Applicant(s):** Koji Yamaya, et al.

**Examiner:** Unassigned

**Serial No:** 10/721,518

**Art Unit:** Unassigned

**Filed:** November 25, 2003

**Docket:** 17280

**For:** ENDOSCOPE APPARATUS

**Dated:** December 16, 2003

Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, it is requested that the following references, which are also listed on the attached Form PTO-1449, be made of record in the above-identified case.

1. Japanese Unexamined Utility Model Application Publication No. 51-53789, dated April 24, 1976, together with English-language Abstract; and
2. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. 2001-212078, dated August 7, 2001, together with English-language Abstract.

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on December 16, 2003.

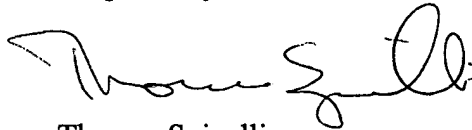
Dated: December 16, 2003

  
Thomas Spinelli

Applicants are submitting copies of the above-cited references. The relevance of the above-identified references has been described in the specification.

Inasmuch as this Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted in accordance with the schedule set out in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), no statement or fee is required.


Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thomas Spinelli", written in a cursive style.

Thomas Spinelli  
Registration No.: 39,533

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TS:dg

|  |            |   |   |                        |              |                 |   |
|--|------------|---|---|------------------------|--------------|-----------------|---|
| Form PTO-1449 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE<br>(REV. 7-80) PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE<br><br><b>LIST OF PRIOR ART<br/>CITED BY APPLICANT</b><br><br><i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>  |            | <b>Atty. Docket No. (Optional)</b><br><br>17280 | <b>Application Number</b><br><br>10/721,518 |                        |              |                 |   |
|   |            | <b>Applicant(s)</b><br>Koji Yamaya, et al.      |   |                        |              |                 |   |
|  |            | <b>Filing Date</b><br>November 25, 2003         | <b>Group Art Unit</b><br>Unassigned         |                        |              |                 |   |
| <b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>   |            |   |   |                        |              |                 |   |
| <b>EXAMINER<br/>INITIAL*</b>   |            | <b>DOCUMENT NUMBER</b>                          | <b>DATE</b>                                 | <b>NAME</b>            | <b>CLASS</b> | <b>SUBCLASS</b> | <b>FILING DATE<br/>(if appropriate)</b> |
|  | AA         |   |   |                        |              |                 |   |
|  | AB         |   |   |                        |              |                 |   |
|  | AC         |   |   |                        |              |                 |   |
|  | AD         |   |   |                        |              |                 |   |
|  | AE         |   |   |                        |              |                 |   |
| <b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>  |            |   |   |                        |              |                 |   |
|  | <b>REF</b> | <b>DOCUMENT NUMBER</b>                          | <b>DATE</b>                                 | <b>COUNTRY</b>         | <b>CLASS</b> | <b>SUBCLASS</b> | <b>TRANSLATION</b>                      |
|  |            |   |   |                        |              |                 | <b>YES</b> <b>NO</b>                    |
|  |            | 51-53789  | 4/24/76                                     | Japan                  |              |                 |   |
|  |            | 2001-212078                                     | 8/7/01                                      | Japan                  |              |                 |   |
|  |            |   |   |                        |              |                 |   |
|  |            |   |   |                        |              |                 |   |
| <b>OTHER DOCUMENTS</b> <i>(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)</i>   |            |   |   |                        |              |                 |   |
|  |            |   |   |                        |              |                 |   |
|  |            |   |   |                        |              |                 |   |
|  |            |   |   |                        |              |                 |   |
|  |            |   |   |                        |              |                 |   |
| <b>EXAMINER</b>  |            |   |   | <b>DATE CONSIDERED</b> |              |                 |   |
| * EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. |            |   |   |                        |              |                 |   |

**TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**(Under 37 CFR 1.97(b) or 1.97(c))**

Docket No.  
**17280**

In Re Application Of: **Koji Yamaya, et al.**

Serial No.

**10/721,518**

Filing Date

**November 25, 2003**

Examiner

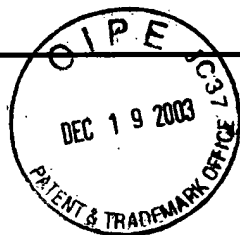
**Unassigned**

Group Art Unit

**Unassigned**

Title:

**ENDOSCOPE APPARATUS**



Address to:

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P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

**37 CFR 1.97(b)**

1. ☒ The Information Disclosure Statement submitted herewith is being filed within three months of the filing of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under 37 CFR 1.53(d); within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 CFR 1.491 in an international application; before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits, or before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114.

**37 CFR 1.97(c)**

2. ☐ The Information Disclosure Statement submitted herewith is being filed after the period specified in 37 CFR 1.97(b), provided that the Information Disclosure Statement is filed before the mailing date of a Final Action under 37 CFR 1.113, a Notice of Allowance under 37 CFR 1.311, or an Action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and is accompanied by one of:
- ☐ the statement specified in 37 CFR 1.97(e);
- OR**
- ☐ the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p).

**TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
(Under 37 CFR 1.97(b) or 1.97(c))

Docket No.  
17280

In Re Application: **Koji Yamaya, et al.**

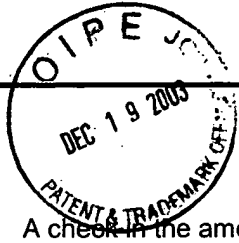
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10/721,518

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November 25, 2003

Examiner  
Unassigned

Group Art Unit  
Unassigned

**ENDOSCOPE APPARATUS**



**Payment of Fee**

(Only complete if Applicant elects to pay the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p))

- ☐ A check in the amount of \_\_\_\_\_ is attached.
- ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge and credit Deposit Account No. **19-1013/SSMP** as described below.
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Signature of Person

**Thomas Spinelli**  
Typed or Printed Name of Person

**\*This certificate may only be used if paying by deposit account.**

  
Signature

Dated: **December 16, 2003**

**Thomas Spinelli**  
**Registration No. 39,533**

TS:dg

CC: